

REMARKS

This submission is further to the telephonic interview of October 16, 2007 in which the features of the Applicants' non-hub device were discussed, and the subsequent Request for Continued Examination. The present submission is in reply to the further office action dated December 27, 2007.

A colon has been inserted at the end of the preamble of claims 1 and 22. Claims 1, 7, 22 and 28 are pending.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

Claims 1, 7, 22 and 28 stand rejected in this application under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by US 6,633,932 issued to Bork et al. (hereinafter "Bork"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As the Examiner will appreciate, a single prior art reference anticipates a patent claim if it expressly or inherently describes each and every limitation set forth in the patent claim: Trintec Indus. Inc. v. Top-U.S.A. Corp., 63 USPQ2d 1597, 1599 (Fed. Cir. 2002).

The claims are generally directed to a device connected to a computer, the device being a PDA that is capable of representing itself as a hub instead of representing itself as a PDA in order to be charged. This functionality, for example, allows the PDA to utilize existing pre-packaged drivers provided by some computers. The device disclosed in Bork is not such a PDA.

More specifically, claim 1 requires that:

...software installed in the personal digital assistant is configured to represent the personal digital assistant to the computer as a hub instead of as a personal digital assistant to draw at least one of charge and power from the computer by sending a first signal to the computer...

Claim 22 recites analogous features. Bork acknowledges generally that USB devices may be hubs (Bork, col. 5, lines 32-33), but does not teach that the portable electronic device to be charged comprises software that is configured to represent the portable electronic device as a hub instead of as a portable electronic device.

Furthermore, claim 1 also requires that:

...the software is configured to represent the personal digital assistant to the computer as the hub being connected to one peripheral device if the personal digital assistant is not connected to any peripheral devices by sending a second signal to the computer...

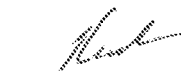
Claim 22 recites analogous features. Bork does not teach that the portable electronic device to be charged comprises software to represent the portable electronic device specifically as a hub connected to one peripheral device (i.e. representing that the portable electronic device is, itself, connected to a peripheral device; as noted in Bork, col. 5, lines 32-33, a USB "hub" device provides additional attachment points to the USB) even though, in reality, the personal digital assistant is not connected to any peripheral devices. Bork does not suggest any need to "fool" the computer into believing that the portable electronic device is a hub connected to a peripheral device, when it is, in fact, not a hub, and not connected to any peripheral devices.

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It is respectfully submitted that Bork does not disclose a system or method for at least one of charging and powering a personal digital assistant that comprises each and every limitation recited in any one of independent claims 1 and 22, and that the Examiner's concerns have been addressed. It is further submitted that Bork also does not anticipate the subject matter of the dependent claims for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 1, 7, 22 and 28 is now in form for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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